

# TELEGRAM

INDICATE  
☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

File (S) 22

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FROM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES		CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]
E.O. 11652:	GDS	
TAGS:	SHUM, AR, OAS	
SUBJECT:	IAHRC Proposed Visit to Argentina	
ACTION:	SECSTATE WASHDC	
INFO:	AM AMEMBASSIES ASUNCION, BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO [REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 1797	
AMB	1. A proposal reported here in the press last month of the	
DCM	The proposal of /Inter American Human Rights	
POL3	intention	
POLR	Commission's (IAHRC) /to visit Argentina has	
USIS	generated great interest among Human Rights	
ECOM	advocates here	
RF	in Argentina, although most are	
CHRON	skeptical that GOA will allow IAHRC entry.	
	GOA, itself, publicly acknowledged the request	
	of the IAHRC, but has [REDACTED] had no further	
	comment except that the proposal is under	
	study within Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	
	2. Acting Head of Foreign Office Working Group	
	on Human Rights (Flores) told Embassy Officer	
	on March 8 that the Foreign Office had prepared	
	a detailed study of the IAHRC proposal which	
	had been forwarded recently to the Presidency	
	for action. Flores thought that the decision	
	would ultimately be made by the Junta itself.	

INCORRECT  
FORMAT

MUCH  
ADDITIONAL  
WORK  
FOR  
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DRAFTED BY: POL: FAHarris gcr	DRAFTING DATE 3/10/78	TEL. EXT. 278	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: POL: WHallman
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CLEARANCES:

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
☒ Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s):  
Declassify ( ) In Part ☒ In Full  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date Declassify on Reason

CLASSIFICATION

OPTIONAL FORM 153  
(Formerly FS-413)  
January 1975  
Dept. of State

81F93  
(51/52)

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3. According to Flores, the Foreign Office's paper did not pose a simple "yes or no question." Rather, the paper focused on the conditions, guidelines, and timing for a possible ~~xxxxxx~~ visit. He refused to speculate on the outcome, indicating that he thought it would be a close and hard decision.

4. Permanent Assembly for Human Rights Vice President Mignone, who as former OAS employee has close ties with IAHRG, has been informed that the IAHRG proposed informally that a five-person delegation visit Argentina in May. He <sup>believes that</sup> timing of the proposal (and of the visit) is an effort to take advantage of the GOA's special concern regarding its international image prior to the World Football Cup matches here in June.

5. Embassy Comment: The Foreign Office has been considering a ~~xxxxxx~~ visit of the IAHRG for a number of months. FonMin Undersecretary Allara made a special point to initiate contacts with the IAHRG on his visit to Washington ~~last~~ late last year. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
This was followed by ~~the Argentine's~~ initiative to include a specific reference to the IAHRG in the Montes-Vance Joint Communique in November 1977. It could well be that the Foreign Office is proposing options for a continuation of the successful GOA policy to confront directly, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ but on their terms,

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the international human rights initiatives directed  
against them. Whether the Junta (and their military  
advisors) would accept such a high risk strategy is a  
major question. However, if the gambit is accepted the  
IAHRC will be faced with a difficult negotiation in  
which the first entry of the IAHRC in the Southern Cone  
could possibly  
~~will~~ be an objective to be traded for the Committee's  
~~XXX~~ acceptance  
of restrictive guidelines.

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